SERAPHITA: A ROMANCE OF IDEALITY.

REAPHITA. By Honore de Balanc. Translated by Ratharine Prescott Wormeley. With an introduc-tion by George Frederic Parsons. 12mu, pp. lxxx, 275. Boston: Roberts Brothers.

In "Seraphita" Balzac reached the summit of sible human achievement as regards ideality in flotion. For loftiness of conception, sustained purity and elevation, delicacy of execution, and beauty and harmony of setting, this work is unsurpassed. It is the crown and culmination of the philosophic triad which begins in the "Magio Skin" and proceeds through " Louis Lambert" to the present splendid conclusion. There is nothing in literature at all resembling "Scraphita." It is in the visions of ecstatics, in the glowing conons of great religious enthusiasts, in the exlted imaginings of those spiritual explorers who seek to open the eyes of the soul by mortifying the appeatites of the body, that any ideas allied to these are to be found. From the first page, where tre scene opens upon the winter-bound Norwegian fiord, and the landscape, as Gautier said, appears painted in but two tones-the blue of the sky and ice, the dazzling white of the snow, with pearly tints for shadows-the reader is made to feel that he has entered upon hely ground; that he has left behind him the heat, the passions, the low ambitions, the base enmities, the sordid desires, of everyday life, and is lifted for a time into an atmosphere rarefied indeed and not easy to breathe, but each inspiration of which brings poace and noble thoughts and the capacity for comprehension of things spiritual and divine.

There are points in "Scraphita" which must have sorely perplexed the generation of Frenchmen, we will not say for whom it was written, who were the first possessors of its beauties; and therefore it was fitting and desirable that it should, upon being Englished, be furnished with such an introduction as Mr. Parsons has written, which leaves few if any doubtful questions unexplained, while giving what may be called a historical and material back-ground to the book. Scraphita, the marvellous creature whose passage from Matter to Spirit, from the Specialist to the Divine conditions, is the theme of Balzac's genius in this case, is intended to typify the final fruition of a sourse of stradfast upward working by a soul which has by many reincarnations won its way past the Instructive and Abstractive spheres of existence, and has at length attained that delicate balance of the material and spiritual which is the last possible manifestation on the earthly plane. In this exalted state the principal being reverts to the type of humanity supposed by ancient occultists to have been the primal form of humanity: the union of the sexes in one individual; dualism, however, rather than andregynism. For according to the doctrine represented, the perfect type of the highest humanity mus embrace the best characteristics of both man and woman; the wisdom of the one with the love of the other; the force of the one with the purity of the other; the persistence of the one with the subtlety of the other. Strength and sweetness power and tenderness, justice and mercy, understanding and intuition, must combine in this rarest and noblest and completest flower of the race; and such a one is Scraphita.

In the buoyant and ethereal movement with which this mysterious creature passes over the cliffs and crogs of the lofty Falsberg, braving precipitous ascents and the treacherous glaciers, the tremendous mountain walls and the sbysmal depths, with the steadiness of absolute self-confidence or the natural assurance of a being uncontrolled by the law of gravitation, may be perceived Balzac's intimation of the refinement I tenuity already attained by Seraphita's physical organism. It is indeed still a material body, and one too gross to endure translation, but compared with that of even so pure a human creature as Minna, it is diaphanous and weightless. It is the mere servant of the soul, nor in the final incarnation has it for a moment been the master. It may suffer; it must die; but it cannot dominate the powerful spirit that informs it. To make Sersphits intelligible to coarse understandings it was necessary to employ the plainest imagery, and therefore while there is a profound occult philosophy wrapped up in this fiction, it is presented the most part under exoteric forms which ally it in principle to some of those so-called mysteries" wherewith the Church in the Middle Ages was wont to amuse and perchance instruct the simple, unspiritual folk of the period. There is little action and no plot in " Seraphita." The sceptical Pastor, the worldly, sensual Wilfrid, the good but unenlightened Minns, are each and all introduced rather as symbols than as living persons, to point the contrast, to emphasize the various stages of progress through which the central figure has pessed, and to mark the extent of the gulf which separates her from the humanity she about to leave. Wilfrid and Minna both see in Seraphita the complement of their own nature and this is inevitable. Wilfrid is the first to realize the futility of his ideas concerning her, owever, and this, too, is significant, for with Minna no such futility existed. She loved Seraphita indeed with a mistaken love, but not with a gross love; whereas the feeling of Wilfrid originally is almost sacrilegious, and to be con-

quered, not by refining, but by extirpation. The chief use of these characters is to facilitate the development of the philosophic and theosophic doctrine which underlies the work, and this is effected in a series of conversations and monologues of the deepest interest and the most skilful and eloovent composition. It would perhaps be difficult to find anywhere a stronger or better stated argument for the spiritual side of human nature then Seraphita's brilliant discourse in the chateau constitutes. What will certainly strike many readers in this, moreover, is the singular freshness and modernity of it. It is difficult to realize that it was written more than half a century ago, so fully is it abreast of recent thought, so full is it of that subtle element called the spirit of the age. This feature of "Scraphita" serves to show one more that the great writer was truly in advance of his own time, and that his intuition penetrated to spiritual depths not yet sounded by the plummet of modern research. The old Pastor, who pores over the great folios of Swedenborg, and, failing to grasp the seer's meaning, falls back upon Wier for rational-that is to say, wholly gross and material-explanations, is no doubt meant to typify the average man of the world, and possibly also the average man of science, who insists on erecting his little knowledge of phenomena into as, and, having reached the limits of his own resptive powers, loudly affirms that they are also the limits of human discovery.

Balzao made free use of the writings of Swedenlorg in "Scraphita," but his plan embraces a wider field of thought than that of the Swedish He has, in fact, laid under contribution the lors of occultism, and has incorporated th it many ideas which will be recognized as ug to Christian eschatology. But with at unsurpassable art are all these recondite docthe author's purpose! How harmoniously the exposition of the central theme proceed; welution of humanity and its progress through to spirit; the gradual development of its to spirit; the gradual development of its a carriers and powers, beginning with self-passing to unselfish leve, and ending in le leve, which opens the gates of Henven and insonacivable felicities of celestial existence, a complains that Belizze has abused romance alsospears abused the drama, in imposing upon ove than it can legitimately bear. Yet he contribing the criticism by admitting that after all philosophical romances "crown the enter-philosophical romances "crown the enter-philosophical romances crown the other complete exists finds in them its complete exus of the artist finds in them its complete ex-sion and its final blooming." This is the h. The "Comedie Humaine" would be but a tary achievement were this trilogy wantto it. The philosophical romances interpret nee to the romances of manners,

and upon them principally rest the grandeur and the success of the great literary undertaking. The final chapters of "Seraphita" are almost

beyond the scope of criticism. Never has fiction been elevated to such heights as here, and never has the sublimity of the conceptions been so magnificently and successfully maintained throughout. There is no check or pause in the mounting flight of the author's inspiration. However difficult the execution of this part of the work may have been to him and we know from his own correspondence that it taxed his powers severely-his art is too consummate to afford the least indication of what the composition cost him. He scarn as easily in the empyrean as though it were his native atmosphere, as if he leaves much to the imagination of the reader, the impression produced is not that of his limitations, but of his consciousness that beyoud a certain point he cannot hope or expect to be followed. It is proper to point out, however, that the present translation puts before the English-speaking public the beauties of Balzac's finest work as no other rendering of him has ever done. Miss Wormeley has not only succeeded in giving a most faithful version of the original work; she has by the force of sympathy and the help of intuition preserved the very spirit and inner meaning of Balzac, and the result is more than a translation-it is to all practical interests a reproduction, in which no subtlest tint or tone of the original is missed or obscured.

" Milton," said Charles Lamb, "almost requires a solemn service of music to be played before you enter upon him. But he brings his music, to which who listens had need bring docile thoughts and purged ears." So may we say of the conclusion of Balzue's great spiritual romance. It is not for the reading of the frivolous. Docile thoughts and jections is a question which requires very careful purged cars are needed by those who would enjoy the divine melody of these matchless pages. The reader who desires to follow Scraphita in her ascension must, like Minna and Wilfrid, leave behind him his material envelope, and seek, from contact with the enfranchised soul rising to its 1cward, strength to sustain the splendors which radiate through those upper spaces. Taine has said that the conclusion of this work is like "a bowever, well to avoid panic fears in regard to the poem of Dante," and there is truth in the comperison. The sense of awe, of immensity, of divinity, pervades the whole wonderful conception, and as, the majestle ceremonial concludes, the screen of materiality is drawn between the mortal witnesses and this brief but dazzling glimpse of immortality, the reversion to commonplace existence is almost painful and quite depressing. In a time of eager and daring inquiry, and because also of the growing reaction against materialism, this fine translation of a great master's noblest production ought to be welcomed heartily, for it is a valuable contribution at once to progressive thought and to good literature.

## THE "BURNING QUESTION."

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE.

THE FAMILY; A HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL STUDY.

By Charles Franklin Thwing and Carrie F.

Butler Thwing. 8vo. pp. 213. Boston: Lee
& Shepard.

de Shepard.

THE GEOGRAPHY OF MARRIAGE: or, LEGAL PERPLEXITIES OF WEDLOCK IN THE UNITED
STATES. By William L. Snyder. 12mo, Ep.
334. G. P. Putnam's Sons.

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE. By Af. Richard, M. A.

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE. By AL Rehard, M. A.,
Professor David Swing and others. 12mo,
pp. 208. Rand, McNally & Co.

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE IN THE UNITED
STATES: AS THEY ARE AND AS THEY OUGHT
TO BE. By D. Convers, S. S. J. E., 16mo.

BE. By D. Convers, S. S. J. 263. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippine MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE. By B. Franklin, U. D. 12mo, pp. 208. E. & J. B. Young & Co.

The fact that so many works, all treating the same subject, though from different points of view, should appear almost simultaneously, sufficiently testifies to prominence of the questions involved, and the

gravity ascribed to them. In the study put at the head of our list the authors examine the family institution so far as the historical record permits, and bring their analysis down the present time, concluding with a survey of the influences operating against the family. and the status of divorce. Mr. Snyder in " The Geography of Marriage," sets forth the confusion and mis which result from the conflict of divorce laws in the United States, and gives some valuable suggestions looking to remedial action. "Marriage and Divorce" is a work which was first published in Engand created some sensation there. author rests his arguments mainly upon of Scripture, and authority of Scripture, and considerations thence defence of polygamy, which he contends is not condemned either in the Old or the New Testament. He, however, does not venture to recommend plural apparent breach in the coherence of his argument the modern spirit in him being obviously too strong for the logical requirements of his main contention. He appears not to see the danger of holding by the Bible at one point and rejecting it at another; of declaring that marriage as a Christian institution rests wholly on Scripture, and in the next breath asserting that the marriage laws of the Pentateuch were intended for the Jews alone. He argues, however, with moderation, learning and earnestness. The two volumes on "Marriage and Divorce" by Messrs. Convers and Franklin cover substantially similar ground, though the former treats principally

of the canonical law and positions respecting marriage. All the authors cited agree in this; that the laws of the various States of the Union concerning divorce are most mischievously conflicting; that cases they are far too loosely drawn; that the number and proportion of divorces have for several years been steadily increasing. As to this last-mentioned fact the proof is conclusive. The figures are taken from the Special Report on the Statistics of Marriage and Divorce made to Congress in February of the current year by Carroll D. Wright, Commissioner of Labor. This report embraces the years 1867-1886 that is to say, a period of Iwenty years. The first thing to be noted is that the increase of diverces has not proceeded parl passu with the increase of population; it has greatly exceeded the growth of population. The increase of divorces in twenty years as been 156 por cent; and the increase was greatest in the second decade. The second point of interest observed is that about twice as many divorces are granted to women as to men. As Mr. Convers says: Divorce is the woman's remedy." But why is it so? The right answer to that question would be the key to the whole problem, and would show where and how to apply the remedics. The statistics are often curious. Thus we find that 5,438 men were divorced because their wives descried them; while 75,119 women were deserted by their husbands. Of total of 328,71d divorces, 112,630 were granted to nen and 216,077 to women. Mr. Couvers argues from these facts that "divorcer reform depends more on women than on men. The laws are drawn to favor them; They chiefly use the courts. It is em-

phatically a woman's question."

Of course the most important point to be determined is whether the increase of divorces is an effect of the laxity of the law, or whether the laxity of the law is a reflection from a public opinion which is becoming less tolerent of the marriage bond. s considered by the authors of "The Family" in an interesting and intelligent manner. In the first place they think that "marriage is following the drift which Sir Henry Maine has pointed out as characteristic of progressive society, the drift from status to conract." The secularization of marriage is an inevitable corollary of this change. The "mass of the people are drifting away" from the conception of marriage as "In the United States, even among a sacrament. professed Christians, marriago has ceased to be a religious observance, and has become an occasion of social festivity"—though it is obvious that the festive and social aspects of marriage have dominated the religious for a very long period, and assuredly for a fed long antedating the relaxation of divorce laws. But the expansion of "woman's rights" is held responsible for much of the evil complained of. Women have heard so much about their rights that some of them have lost sight of their duties. In her new independence woman tends to excess and reaction. Moreover with greater advantages of education has in many instances outstripped the man. The education of the average American woman, so far as it pertains to a knowledge of books, is doubtless superior to that of the average man. Especially is this true in the middle class, a class among which the rate of divorce is by far the highest. Among this us in the older States the intellectual superiority

lessness. "Thus far the changes have been one-sided.
The ideas regarding the rights and privileges of women in society have undergone a complete transformation. But there is another cause of discontent and rest

rights and privileges of women in the family. rights and privileges of women in the inmity. The sphere of woman has wonderfully expanded outside the marriage relation; within it, hardly at all." Perhaps the authors of "The Family" approach still nearer the truth when they say: "Purthermore, the expansion of woman's duties has not kept pace with the expansion of the control of the state In effect, her sion of her rights and privileges." responsibilities have been diminished, her security increased, at the same time that new temptations urge her outside the family for the chief interests of her life, and every educational influence to which she is subjected tends to make her think lightly of her obligations and with exaggeration of her rights. doubtedly one explanation of excess of divorces sought by women is to be found in the general and increasing fect of social influences which unfit women for family duties. The "unwillingness on the part of the wife to assume her share of the mutual duties and burdens of married life," and her "discontent and unreasonable exactions" are fruitful causes of those quarrets which lead to the divorce court.

The question whether adequate remedies can be found is not easily to be answered. So far as the statutory part of the problem is concerned, even, there are serious difficulties in the way. The authors of The Family" think that a constitutional amendment relegating all legislation concerning marriage and divorce to Congress would settle this question. But Mr. Snyder in "The Geography of Marriage" clearly shows that such an amendment to the Constitution would be both difficult to obtain and dangerous if procured. He is undoubtedly right in asserting that the power which it is proposed to confer upon Congress would seriously trench upon the necessary rights of the States, inasmuch as the whole complicated subject of inheritance would follow marriage and divorce legislation, and the Federal interference with social would at once be so increased as to raise grave issues. Whether the enactment of a National marriage and divorce law could be so hedged as to obviate these oband deliberate consideration. As to the need of a legislative remedy, an adjustment of the conflict of laws which now exists, there can be no controversy The situation is a National shame and scandal, and it is equally clear that so long as it remains unaltered i will contribute powerfully to extend the moral evils which are inseparable from loose and discordant di vorce laws, whether or not they represent popular tendencies toward a lower plane of social ethics. It is, whole subject, and some remarks of the authors of "The Pamily" on this point are so sound that they descrive to be quoted.

That the evil has already become so serious that demands a remedy most calm students of social soblems are agreed. Yet, on the other hand, is doubtful if the force of alarmists regarding the sture effects of divorce are ever likely to be realized, refous as the question is, and fraught as it is with peril to the highest interests of society, the evil must deeper into our life than it has yet struck b fore social anarchy will result. It thus far seems to be rather an excrescence than a deep-scated disease, Happily, the dignity and purity of the marriage relation have emisted upon their side the noblest instincts and emotions of which human nature is capable. Those, with the help that law and public opinion can give, are sure, ultimately, to do far more than restore marriage to its pristine sanctity.

That is a same hope and expectation; yet if there is today no emund for alternative there.

o-day no ground for gloomy anticipations, assuredly there is matter for serious consideration and need for energetic reform measures. Nor is it safe depend wholly upon what the law can do. When had laws are taken advantage of, the fact must be recognized that there exists a certain social tendency which is in line with them. The moral aspects of the increase of divorces are serious. The mere fact of the increase proves that from some cause or causes unwholesome and abnormal conditions are not diminishing. To ascertain these causes is therefore a prime necessity, and they may be sought confidently among the influences which at present are enlarging the gen eral appreciation of individual rights at the expense the general recognition of individual duties these influences begin to operate in the nursers Mostern children are too often brought up in way which make them selfish despite of themselves. At an age when the moral sense is wholly latent and undeveloped they are often taught to think only themselves, and the tendencies thus cultivated soon dominate their characters. Want of modesty and self-suppression, lack of reverence for their elders, conceit, egotism, discourtesy, too commonly mark such children, and make them nulsances to others and standing impeachments of their parents' judgment It would be unreasonable to expect that boys and girls who have never known discipline or moral training abould grow up to be useful and worthy members of society. Naturally they do not do so. They are poevish, selfish, impatient of crosses. intolerant, inconsiderate, as men and women. do not know how to bear and forbear, yet without that knowledge it is impossible that marriage can be happy or even tolerable. No doubt the vain ambition to be thought better off than they are, the frivolous social consideration, aggravate semperamental and educational defects, and precipitate domestic collisions and ruptures. In marriages so easily wrecked it may be taken for granted that there never has been true love; but it is one of the worst results of the modern methods of bringing up children that they tend to render any love but that of self impossible, and so fatally lower the character. There can be no real love without the capacity and desire for se'f abnegation, and where that capacity has not been cultivated and developed by high and wholesome

moral discipline it is very unlikely to spring up tta-if.

The same victous methods of rearing the young are accountable for the decline in the sense of duty which is so closely allied to the dominant selfishness. When childhood and youth are void of any recognition of the obligations due to parents it is not probable that duties owed to others will be more keenly realized performed. The scheme of life whose central motive is self-indulgence is in itself a warning against marriage. Isolation is the only condition in which the egotist can flourish and expand. Whoever looks to marriage for happiness must be prepared for sacrifices and for self-surrender and suppression. The materialism which is a leading characteristic of this period undoubtedly exercises sinister influence upon society, and the tendencies which make for creased divorce owe not a little to a cause which is distinctly demoralizing in so many of its phases, not in all of them. It is not enough to reform the laws and harmonize them. Public opinion and feeling also stand in need of purifying and regenerating agencies. The works which we have reviewed in his article indeed may be considered as demonstrating the prudence of a healthy spirit of reform and a cientious determination to speak the truth in season. But much more than this is needed. Educational methods and theories in particular require revision and amendment. A quickening of the national conscience in many directions is called for, and most of all in regard to the supreme importance, as a life-motive, of a high sense of duty, and an equally high standard of attainment in its performance.

## LITERARY NOTES.

The " Life and Letters of Roscoe Conkling" is a work which C. L. Webster & Co. are preparing to publish in the aujumn. Mr. Conkling's nephew. Alfret R. Conkling, is editing the book, assisted by Mrs. Conkling and her friends. It will consist principally of letters and extracts from Mr. Conkling's speeches and is to be prefaced by a steel portrait.

A book dealing with the "Poets of Essex County (Mass.) will soon appear in Salem from the pen of Mr. Sidney Pericy. The volume will contain brief biographies of 191 writers who were born or who lived and wrote within the borders of old Essex; also a number of selections from their writings. Among these poets are Whittier, Epes Sargent, Lucy Larrom, George Lunt, William Winter, Jones Very, Lydia L. Very, Charles T. Brooks, Harriet Prescott Spofford. Caroline A. Mason, John Pierpont and General Albert Pike. Anne Bradstreet was the first Essex poet. Many distinguished American writers have also had summer homes in Essex County.

Where is Mr. W. Fraser Rae that he is not publishing mother novel as clever as his "Miss Bayle's Romance" 1

It is in brilliance, says "The Athenaeum," that he poetic energy of youth manifests itself-not the poetic energy of maturity. Brilliance in literature not a difficult thing to achieve-nay, it is often a too easy thing. In middle life the difficulty with the practised writer is to avoid writing brilliantlya difficulty almost as great as that of writing wisely and well. And both in prose and in verse this is so.

"The Youth's Companion" says that while Authory Trollope was writing " The Last Chronicle of Barset," h surprised a friend one day by saying to him, " There's the end of Mrs. Proudle!" "Why !" asked the friend.

Mr. Trollope replied that he was writing one day in the — Club, while a group of young clergymen, gathered around the fireplace, were talking about the novel, which was appearing as a serial. He could not help overhearing them, as they praised the work, but agreed that Mrs. Proudie was becoming an in-

tolerable nuisance.
"What did you do?" asked the friend.

wist to do; but I finally made up my mind, and ART NEWS AND COMMENTS. wint up to them and explained that I couldn't help hearing what they were saying, and I added, 'I am much obliged to you. I am Anthony Trolloge and I'll so home and kill Mrs. Proudle.

And so he did. Miss Y. H. Addis, who is known as the author of ome elever short stories of Californian and Mexican some elever short stories of Californian and Mexican life, has discovered, in a little Mexican town the method of making the marvellous "lustre" pottery, specimens of which Mr. Charles Dudley Warner found in Mexico two years ago. She will shortly tell the story of her happy discovery in "Rarper."

Among the articles on the practical applications of electricity which will appear in "Scribner" during the coming year, will be one on "The Tolegraph of This paper, which will describe the marvellous advances in telegraphy since the days of Morse and Vatl, is the work of Mr. C. L. Buckingham, the chief electrical expert of the Western Union

Telegraph Company. Mr. Charles G. Leland, who has been very III in Florence, is recovering, and is making a series of handbooks of the minor arts and industries.

Mr. Bellamy's book "Looking Backward" is one of the notable successes of the past year. Its sale continues to be prodigious and a German translation will soon be published by Houghton, Mifflin & Co. The reduction to practice of the lessons implied in Bellamy's imaginings has not yet been observed in spite of the associations formed to accomplish it,

The modern American novel makes, in the opinion "The Saturday Review," rather an interesting atudy. "With the rapidity of development which characterizes the century," it says, "American fiction has in certain directions taken on the infirmities of old age before it has overpassed the crudities of youth. Or, perhaps, one might fancy it has bor-rowed the corruption of older communities before it Some new American writers of novels betray ominous tokens of the influence of the French realistic school. We say uminous because any young and growing art injures itself by horrowing modes and methods alien to its original nature. Better its own awkwardnesses of immature youth than the brilliant impr prieties stolen from France, which sit uncomfortably on unaccustomed limbs.

A volume of essays on George Meredith as novelist and poet is coming out in London. Mr. Lo, Galilenne is the author. A bibliography of Meredith's writings will be attached to the book.

The new story which Robert Louis Steverson has been writing with the aid of his American stepson, Lloyd Osbourne, is called "The Wrong Box." It is a new field for Mr. Stevenson, the exciting plot relating to the wonderful adventures of a young man in his attempt to secure the fruits of a tentine life-insurance policy. The book is a paradox-full of crimes and full of a wild humor. The American stepson's share in it enables the publishers on both sides of the Atlantic to copyright it.

John Eurroughs is described as rising early in his Esopus home and spending his time about his house and farm until 9 or 10 o'clock. "Then," says "The Literary News," "he retires to the study he has built himself, several hundred yards from the house, everlooking the Hudson River. It is a little square building, with rough walls within and faced with long The house is ornamented with strips of bark without. pictures of men and birds, all songsters; the men, with the exception of Carlyle, being poets; the birds all singing-birds."

Mrs. Julia Ward Howe has written out her Anti-Slavery reminiscences for "The Cosmopolitan.

It is said that the largest supplies of allen literature received in England are sent to that country by the United States, Holland and France.

EMERSON AND THE RUSSIAN PANATIC.

From "Emerson in Concord."

He established certain iron rules for the manage-He established certain iron rules for the management of the Fligrims. No railing or wilful rudeness or uncleanness would be permit. In the autumn of 1s71, some years after the arrival of the more wild and uncouth Reformers had ceased, a man short, thick, hairy, dirty, and wisi-eyed came to our door and asked to see Mr. Edgerson. I showed him into the parlor and went to cair my atther, and returned with him, the guest had so wild a look. It appeared that he came from Hussia, and very possibly the distance he had had to travel may have accounted for his very late arrival. He stood with his hat on. I knew that that hat would have be opened, but wondered how it could be got off, as the man looked so determined. My father saluted him, asked him to be seared and offered to take his hat. He declined and began to explain his mission. My father again asked him to take

My father saluted him, asked him to be season as onered to take his hat. He declined and began to explain ais mission. My father again asked him to take his hat off, which proposition he ignored and began again to explain his advanced views. Again the host said, "Yes, but let me take your hat, sir."

The Russian supreted some impatient remark about attending to such trifles, and began again, but my father firmly, but with perfect sweetness, said, "Very well, then, we will talk in the yard," showed the guest out, and walked to and fro with him under the appleators patiently hearing him for a few minutes; but out, and walked to and fro with aim under the strees, patiently hearing him for a few minutes; the man, who was a farsatic, if not insane, and specdesired that a hall be secured for him, free of the braddress the people, soon departed, shaking of dust of his feet against a man so bound up in all

## JEALOUS OF BIS FAME.

From The Youth's Companion.

An aspiring young man who had written yards of verses for the paper published in his native town, at first used his initials, "J. R. L.," for a signature. Later, however, he omitted the middle letter, and a friend asked his reason.

"Can't you guess!" said the young poetaster. "Well, it may seem selfish, but I do want the credit of my own work."

of my own work."
"Why shouldn't you have it?"

The young man looked sympathetically at his unid friend. stupid friend.

"My dear fellow," said he, "can't you see how it is? If I use only two of my initials, people will soon associate them with my name; but if I write 'J. R. L.,' James Russell Lowell will get all the credit that belongs to me."

BACCALAUREATE, AS IT WERE.

From The Lincoln (Neb.) Journal. "Alexander Philologus," said the parent in 1 yet styrn, "you are about to go forth i Alexander Finishingus, said the pairwish for head yet sterm, "you are about to go forth into the wide world to carve out your fortune. No doubt you have beautiful dreams of what you will achieve. In your mind's eye you see yourself coming home years from now clad in velvet and fine linen. I trust that you may come home that way, but I fear that your garments may be composed of burlap. You confidently expect to drive homeward down the sinilit road in a gorgeous equipage with servants and rotainers. I trust that you will not be obliged to walk homeward on the ties and get turnings from hired men to keep soul and body together. You seroff at the idea, and you may scoff until the clangor of brazen bells announces that the cows are coming home. I have heard young men scoff before at words that were spiced with wisdom, and I have seen them in after years driving street cars and sawing wood. The fact of the matter is, Alexander, that you bave a rashly exaggerated idea of your own importance in this dreary world. You foolishly entertain the idea that if you were to die to night the carth would shuder and wheel backward. But it wouldn't. The sun would rise just the same, thus stars would gleam as brightly as ever; the creek would gargle merrily on its way; there would suill be marriage and giving in marriage. You would be would be grass would grow over you, and the brunette cow would eath the grass and there wouldn't be a single joit in the whole world because of your death. It is unfortunate that you have hear jostled about a little while you will want to go to some scheduled graveyard and weep. You will be convinced that instead of knowing it all you don't suspect anything. Man is like a ground-hog in the path of a landside, Alexander; if the ground-hog has sense enough to get out of the way, it is all right, but if it cocks itself up on its hind legs and looks wise, it will be everlastingly spuelched. Man is also like a boulder in the own as once who could converse fluently in more landsuges than you could shake a co than the peoples adold it but also any longer to cover it forever than it would one of the pebbles. I knew a man once who could converse fluently in more languages than you could shake a cord of wood at; what he dshirt know about astronomy wasn't worth know long; there wasn't a science or an art on which he was not an authority; his knowledge was simply sublime. If forgot more every day than you can ever hope to know. Yet this remarkable man perished miserably in a creek ten feet whie because he had never learned to swim. Go forth into the world, Alexander, but not with the idea that you know it all. Try to convince youself that other people may have heard a thing or two themselves, and don't expect that they will heralt you as the Coming Man. The prodigal son was rather ity when he left home, and you have heard how he returned. He went back on his uppers, without enough wealth to buy a bowl of soup at a fourth-rate chop house, and hundreds have had a similar experience. house, and hindreds have had a similar experience. Go forth unestentationally and without any drum-major business. If you are not immediately offered a situation as president of a bank, go to work heeling corn, digsing wells or feeding threshing machines. The world is full of golden opportunities, but the young man who is so mashed on his dignity that he will not grasp them is liable to be left in a most deplorable and emphatic manner.

From The Youth's Companion.

Jack Handy learned the word ditto at school one day, and recited the definition three times, in chorus with the others: "Ditto, the same; ditto, the same; ditto, the same." Then the teacher hold the class that she should expect a sentence from each one the next day. In which the new word should be introduced correctly. From The Youth's Companion.

Jack tolled for a long time over his sentence that Jack folied in a long sening, and just before going to bed, he showed his per to his family with great pride, as they all satured the sitting-room table. This was the result of paper to his family with great pride, as they all sat around the sitting-room table. This was the result of his efforts:
"Diro-the same. I bought me a new nife last Saturday, and another boy bought him one ditto day." THE WEEK IN ART CIRCLES.

CLOSE OF THE ART SEASON-AUTUMN EXHIBI-TIONS-NEWS FROM ABBOAD.

Although two exhibitions remain open the art season is practically at an end. There are no sales of pictures and but few visitors, and the artists themselves are rapidly leaving the city for Europe or for the country. The exhibition of the Society of American Artists will be closed this week with the results which have been expected. Only three pictures have been sold and the attendance has been insignificant, The Prize Fund Exhibition will remain open until July 1.

Three autumn exhibitions are announced thus far. The first will be an exhibition of American pictures at the Fifth Avenue Galleries in September. The Baryo exhibition will be opened at the American Art Galleries probably about November 1, and the Academy exhibition will be opened to the public on November 18. A few sales have been arranged for, but no announcements of consequence are made as yet.

There are no "summer changes" at the Metropolitan Museum, and none are needed, since it would be difficult to make any change for the better. Arrangements have been made for the temporary accommodation of the schools in the basement, an unfortunate necessity. It is to be hoped that the northern wing of the Museum building may be erected without a long delay. In the autumn the Museum will probably be closed for a time, reopening with a new loan exhibi-

The National Academy of Design has issued circulars furnishing information in regard to the eighth autumn exhibition. Lists of pictures and sculptures must be has had time to attain its own richest maturity. sent to the secretary at the Academy on or before October 24. Works will be received at the Academy from October 23 to October 30, inclusive. "The Academy cannot in any manner look after the collection or return of city exhibits." The varnishing days will be November 14 and 15, and the "press view" will be on Friday, November 15, after 12 o'clock. The public exhibition will begin on Monday, November 18, and close on December 14.

The Secretan sale holds the attention of New York dealers and amateurs and, as a matter of course, " all Paris" is deeply interested. The Tribune has already mentioned the more important pictures. The sale will be held in the latter part of the month under the management of Messrs, Boussod, Valadon & Co., who have charge of the modern pictures, and Charles Sedelmeyer, who occupies himself with the "old masters." In a recent article in "Figaro," Albert Wolff declares that it is necessary to go back to the Demidoff sale in order to find anything to which the sale of the Secretan collection may be compared. "For the first part of the sale," says Wolff, "the battle will rage about works by Hobbema, de Hoogh, Franz Hals, Ruysdael, Rembrandt, Van Dyck, Cuyp, Metzu, Velasquez, Holbein Gerard Donw, Ostade, Van der Meer and the 'Five Senses' by Teniers, which were sold for 65,000 france at the Demidoif sale. Among the moderns M. Meissonnier counts no less than thirty-one paintings and water colors, one of which, the 'Culrassiers,' brought 800,000 francs or \$60,000. Among the six pictures by Theodore Rousseau is the celebrated 'Charcoal Burn er's Hut,' a masterly work. All the other modern works are of the same quality. There are six superb examples of Decamps, among them the 'Clever Monkeys,' the 'Frondeur' and 'Joseph Sold by his Brethren,' a noble picture, once belonging to the Brethren,' a noble picture, once belonging to Princess de Sagan, who sold it for \$30,000. There thoice Corots, the Daubignys, the nine Troyons, represent" an enormous sum, the pict-Diaz and Fromentin, and finally ures by the five Millets. There is, as we know, the 'Angelus,' for which an American has offered \$100,000. Shall we have the chagrin of seeing the 'Angelus' go to New-York or Baltimore, which aircady own more of the finer works of Millet than all France, for America absorbs everything and returns nothing."

"America," continues Wolff, "is in a state of exellement. From the first day when they have an nounced this sale the picture business has stopped short across the Atlantic. They wait, they goserve themselves, they keep their dollars for the great Paristan event of the end of June. Our admirable Exposition with then see, among other astonishing speciacles, the assembling at the same point of all the men who pay \$20,000 for a picture as indifferently as we take a cup of chocolate. What a pity that we cannot exhibit these millionaires for the benefit of the poor! It would be a fine opportunity of realising large sum. What would be the Japanese village, or Buffale Bill in comparison with this encampment of the millionaires come to Parts for the Secretan sale, and what enormous receipts the Exposition could have if one could exhibit them at night by the electric light with that admirable stage-setting, the gallery of machinery on one side, the Trocadero on the other, protected against pickpockets and was the beginning of a series, as follows; all over off the by a cordon of police."

ber," which will appeal to those who desire venient pictorial memento of the recent celebration.

The publishers, the Photogravura Company of New- Ju-York, have reproduced portraits of the prominent participants in the ceremonies and several sets of views of the President's journey from Elizabethport, the Naval Parade, and the Military and Civic Parades.

paintings, the uniformity of which is the least fault It contains only 2,000 pictures too many, to say the least." M. Veton comments upon "the almost com-plete absence of all productive originality, understanding by this the particular character of all that a master creates, the style of his genius which inevitably | J. exercises an influence upon contemporary artists. The critic continues: "On every side we hear 'We must have something new.' And what do we Some so-called revolutionists, who astonish only by their measureless weakness, which does not prevent a swarm of gulls from applicating pictures the most empty, compositions the most foolish, and, above all, the most incorrectly executed. The spirit and taste which have ruled in the French school with Watteau and Boucher, the lofty inspiration, the poetry which have immortalized it with Eugene Delacroix and Corot, to cite only four great painters, all this they have held as rubbish, they have proclaimed it an old trick, but all this they have succeeded in replacing only by nothingness. Without any guiding principle they have fallen into hopeless confusion, and they have believed that they work miracles. . . They have arrived at this condition only through the total absence of principles. It is a hundred years since democracy has entered upon the scene; whether they have all possible affection for it, or detest it, is not the question. It is an undeniable fact with which it is impossible not to reckon. The artists have not williams 127 is impossible not to recken. The artists have not comprehended it and it would be puerile to be astonished in the presence of the almost complete absence ished in the presence of the almost complete accence of knowledge which distinguishes, also, the greater number of them, as ignorant as their immortal predecessors of the lifteenth and stateauth centuries were profoundly versed in the most diverse branches. The sentiment of that which belongs to a new era has then made too naturally the defect in the art of our time."

It will be seen that M. Veron takes a higher and more serious view of the province of art than most of his confreres. It is interesting to compare his opinion with those of the elever exponent of "art for art's sake," M. Albert Wolff, who occupied two pages of Figuro" with his first article upon the Salon. "If it is necessary to sum up my impression," writes M. Wolff, "I shall not waste my time in vain regrets over the fatigue and ennul which the Salon has imposed upon me. All this disappears before the large aum total of interest which it contains and the con solution which it brings us in the fifty-two works of art which show so rare a vitality in the French school, The Salon of painting of 1880 is then good. This was to be especially desired at the moment whon Europe advances in seried columns upon Paris, and you see me enchanted with the result obtained." Bonnat, the painter, contributes an article upon

Barye to the May number of the "Gazette des Beaux Barye to the May number of the "Gazette des Beaux Arts," but he throws no new light upon his subject. "Those who have known Barye," writes Bonnat, who, strangely enough, never saw the great sculptor, "say that there was in his features, in the breadth of his jaws, in the expression of his lips and the shape of his mouth, something of the what animals which he models. I have painted his portrait for my friend hir. Walters, of Baltimore, with the aid of notes and photographs, and the advice of Mine. Barye, and according to her and her daughters, I have painted a life-like portrait. But I have not found the feroclous side of which his pupils and friends have often spoken." Bonnat dwells upon Barye's obvious preference for the nerver and more stirring phases of solinal life. After all, Barya, might well be called a remanticist. "The timid, the dumble, were for him only a weariness, or a pastima, and it is not in translating them that all the intelsity of his genus reveals itself. That which is necessary to this great; passionals genius is bettles of wild hards. that sil the intehsity of his gentus reveals itself. That which is necessary to this great, passionals gentus is battles of wild beasts, of the great carrivora; he needs poisonous juggios, forests of thorny mimosa, where he is stopped by lions with broad flanks and vellow skins, illuminated by eyes like coals of fire. He needs the speciacle of elephants crushing figers, of gigantic boas hurling themselves with the rapidity of light upon the passing autolope and crushing in powerful coils. He needs the liones upon a crushing in powerful coils. He needs the liones upon a crushing in halling space, the mighty muscles gathered under her, ready to bound upon the great slophants, and

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I must extend to you the thanks of one of my customers, who has been cured by using the CUTICURA REMEDIES, of an old sore, caused by a long spell of sickness or fever, eight years ago. He was so bad he was fearful he would have to have his leg ampulated, but is happy to say he is now entirely well—sound as a dollar. He requests me to use his name, which is H. CASON, merchant, of this piace.

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antediluvian race, traversing the plains under a scene of fire, breaking everything in their resistless career. Here is the paradise of Barye. Here is the world where his imagination loves to live; here is his true kingdom, his domain, incontestably and not contested. As one has been able to selze his sceptre. M. Bonnat closes as lotiows: "Barye is one of the greatest artists of the century; I do not fear even to say of all time. If I had a comparison to make, I should think of Balsac. Barye has had the instinct of the animal and has rendered it with a power equal to that which Balsac put into his impassioned researches into the human heart which he has so well translated. Both have left an ineffaceable mark. Some one may possibly do as well, I doubt it. Never will any one do better." k. Some one may possibly do as well, I Never will any one do better."

## COLLEGE REGATTAS.

THE RECORD IN AMERICAN WATERS, CONTESTS OF THE PAST THIRTY-FOUR YEARS IN WHICH LEADING EASTERN COL

LEGE CREWS HAVE TAKEN PART.

New-London, Conn., June 8 (Special).—The coming Yale-Harvard-or Harvard-Yale--regatta makes it of interest to recall some points in the history of American college boating, and especially the record of races rowed. The record may be divided into three parts: first, the miscellaneous races between Yale, Harvard and various other crews, on the Connecticut River, on Saratoga Lake and elsewhere; second, the series of contests at Lake Quinsigamond, Worcester, Mass., between Harvard and Yale, and sometimes other colleges; and third and latest, the series between Harvard and Yale on the Thames River at New-London. The last-named have come to be recognized as the great events of the year in college aquatic athletics, corresponding to the 'Varsity regattas in England between Oxford and Cambridge on the Thames from Putney to Mortlake. The record begins with August 3, 1852. On that

date a race was rowed at Centre Harbor, Lake Winnipiseogee, N. H., the course being " two miles to wind-The competing crews were the Oneida, of ward." Harvard, and the Haleyon, of Yale; and the Harvard crew was the winner. The time made is not recorded. The boats used were eight-oared Whitehall berges.

Beginning with the next race of importance, a detailed record of time, etc., can be given, as follows : July 21, 1855; Connecticut River, at Springfield. Mass.; one and one-half miles down stream and return to starting point:

Crews. Bost.
ris of Harvard, 8-0 red barge, winner .....
r. T., of Harvard, 4-0 ared barge,
cereid, of Yale, 6-0 ared barge,
Sautilus, of Yale, 6-0 ared barge,

That was not a particularly good year for Yale. The next recorded match occurred four years later, the same course; Lake Quinsigamond, Worcester, Mass.; one and one half miles up the lake and return

	venient pictorial memento of the recent celebration.  The publishers, the Photogravura Company of New- York, have reproduced portraits of the prominent	Date. July 26, 1859.	Harvard, shed, winner Ysle, shell, Harvard, lapstreak,	21:13
	participants in the ceremonies and several sets of views of the President's journey from Elizabethport, the Naval Parade, and the Military and Civic Parades.	July 24, 1860.	Brown, lapstreak,	18:53 19:05 21:15
١	In "L'Art" of May 1, the Salon number, M. Veron	July 29, 1864.	Yale, winner	19:43 1-
l	furnishes a careful survey of "this Salon of 2,771	July 28, 1865.	Harvard, winner	18:421-8
	paintings, the uniformity of which is the least fault. It contains only 2,000 pictures too many, to say the	July 27, 1866.	Vale	10:10
Ì	least " M. Veron comments upon "the almost com-	July 19, 1867.	Yale	19:25 1-2
į	plete absence of all productive originality, understand- ing by this the particular character of all that a	July 24, 1868.	Yale	18:38 1-2
1	master creates, the style of his genius which inevitably exercises an influence upon contemporary artists.	July 23, 1869.	Yale	18:11
	The critic continues: "On every side we hear the cry	July 22, 1870.	Harvard	20.30

been disastrous for Yale and most triumphant for Harvard, the latter having won seven races to the former's two. The fastest time, 18:02, in 1869, was also credited to the wearers of the crimson.

The next three regatias occurred on the Connecticut River, at Springfield, Mass.; course, three miles straightaway down stream. The records are as fol-

July 21, 1871, Mass., Agricultural, winner 16, 4912, Harvard 17, 221-2, Brown 17, 47, 19 Harvard Brown July 24, 1872. Amherst, winner Harvard
Mass. Agricultural
Dowdein
Williams Bowdoin
Mass. Agricultural
Cornell
Trinity
Williams 18:19 1-2 18:24 18:42 19:25 1-3

Following there came two contests on Saratoga lake, at Saratoga, N. Y., on a straightaway course of three miles, with the following results:

18:00 18:23 18:38 Princeton 18:38

Yale, dropped out before the finish.

July 14, 1875. Cornell, winner 17:03 14

Harvard 17:03 34

Dartmouth 17:13 34

Wesleyan 17:13 34

Yale 17:39 34

Brown 17:43 34

Williams 17:33 34

Williams 17:30 34

Yale and Harvard then decided not to engage in au more such wholesale races, but to hold each year nice little private and exclusive contest of their our The records of this series is as follows, only the wip-

nor's time in each race being given:

Winning Time:
Place.
Place.
June 30, 1878. West Springfield, Mass., Yalo... 20:03
June 30, 1877. West Springfield, Mass., Hac. 24:36 June 30, 1877. West Springfield, Mass., Harvard, 24, 36
June 28, 1878. New London, Conn., Harvard, 20, 45
June 27, 1879. New London, Conn., Harvard, 28, 48
July 1, 1880. New London, Conn., Yale, 22, 18
July 1, 1881. New London, Conn., Yale, 22, 18
June 30, 1882. New London, Conn., Harvard, 25, 46, 14
June 26, 1883. New London, Conn., Harvard, 25, 46, 14
June 26, 1884. New London, Conn., Harvard, 25, 15, 12
June 26, 1885. New London, Conn., Harvard, 25, 15, 12
June 28, 1885. New London, Conn., Yale, 20, 31
June 29, 1886. New London, Conn., Yale, 20, 31
June 29, 1888. New London, Conn., Yale, 22, 36
June 29, 1888. New London, Conn., Yale, 20, 31
June 29, 1888. New London, Conn., Yale, 20, 31
June 29, 1888. New London, Conn., Yale, 20, 31
June 29, 1888. New London, Conn., Yale, 20, 31

Of this series, then, up to date, or down to de has won seven races, and Harvard has won six. Yele also is to be credited with the fastest time on recent 20:10, in 1885, and also the second best since 20:31, in 1884. Yele's average time in her systematics is 21 minutes by seconds, and Harvard ber six 23 minutes 29 seconds.